

## Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SPM-01 DRC-01 /103 W  
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R 211701Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5916

INFO AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 1136

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, EI

SUBJECT: EFFECT OF COSGRAV'S VOTE ON CONTRACEPTION

1. A FINE GAEL PARTY CONTACT, WHOSE OPINIONS IN PAST HAVE BEEN SOUND, TOLD US THAT HE THOUGHT PM COSGRAVE HAD STRENGTHENED HIS POSITION IN COUNTRY AREAS BY HIS VOTE AGAINST HIS GOVT'S CONTRACEPTION BILL. SEVERAL PARTY MEMBERS HAVE BEEN MAKING INQUIRIES, ACCORDING TO SOURCE, AND FINDING WIDESPREAD FAVORABLE REACTION IN RURAL AREAS. SOME PEOPLE DISAGREE WITH COSGRAVE'S POSITION AND FEAR EFFECTS OF HIS VOTE, ESPECIALLY ON LINKS WITH NI. EVEN THESE PEOPLE, HOWEVER, OFTEN EXPRESS ADMIRATION FOR MAN WHO KNOWS HIS OWN MIND AND CONSCIENCE. SOME FARMERS ARE ALSO AMUSED BY SHOCK ADMINISTERED TO LIBERAL, URBAN WING OF FINE BAE AND TO LABOR PARTY.

2. ON OTHER HAND, SOURCE SAID THAT MANY IN IRELAND'S NEW URBAN, EDUCATED CLASSES ARE DISILLUSIONED BY COSGRAVE'S VOTE. SOURCE HAD ALSO TALKED TO TWO OF COSGRAVE'S CABINET COLLEAGUES WHO WERE THROWN INTO CONFUSION BY HIS VOTE AND DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT FROM HIM NEXT.

3. COMMENT: FROM SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION, COSGRAVE HAS GIVEN AN  
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EXCELLENT DEMONSTRATION OF WHAT WOULD BE CALLED "MACHISMO" IN

A COUNTRY OF IBERIAN TRADITIONS. WE CAN EASILY ACCEPT FINDING THAT HE HAS REASSERTED AUTHORITY AND INCREASED POPULARITY AMONG MUCH OF PUBLIC. THE PRICE, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN DIVISION IN GOVT AND COUNTRY. COSGRAVE IS A SECRETIVE MAN, AND HE MAY HAVE IN MIND PLANS FOR RESTORING CONFIDENCE IN HIS ABILITY TO LEAD AN EFFECTIVE TEAM. HE IS CAPABLE OF A DRAMATIC GESTURE AT WHAT HE CONSIDERS THE RIGHT TIME FOR NOW, HE PROBABLY ENJOYS LESS CONFIDENCE AS A LEADER THAN AS A PERSON.  
MOORE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BIRTH CONTROL, LAW, POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974DUBLIN01136  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740231-0080  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EFFECT OF COSGRAV'S VOTE ON CONTRACEPTION  
**TAGS:** PGOV, EI, (COSGRAVE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005